(c) and (d) At the time of fixation of norms it has always been the endeavour to fix the norms for the required inputs in appropriate and reasonable quantities required for the product to be exported. However, norms fixed at a particular point of time may undergo change/modification/improvements in the course of passage of time due to continuous R & D efforts, improvements in technology process/modernisation. Therefore, after passage of some time the norms fixed earlier could appear to be in excess when compared with the latest norms fixed after taking into account the latest technological changes/upgradation. This may result into the difference in input output consumptions. However, as and when it is felt that the earlier norms are required to be changed, immediate corrective steps are taken by issuing Public Notices, the copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The process of revising norms is a continuous one.

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority

@ 2646. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority participated in the recently concluded Gulf Food Exhibition held in Dubai; and

(b) if so, the details of orders bagged by it and the total amount thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export is an on-going process and the total amount of orders likely to be finalised cannot be estimated. However, business of over Rs.15 crores has been reported by the exporters to have been generated at the fair itself.

@Previously unstarred Question 2128, transferred from the 12th December, 1991.

Order by Bangladesh to contraband Indian Goods

2647. SHRIMATI BASANTI SHARMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bangladesh has allegedly ordered the seizing of contraband Indian goods from shopping centres after December 15, 1991;

(b) if so, what are the informations Government have received in this connection;

(c) whether Government have any information that some shopkeepers have even brought out processions protesting against that Government's alleged bid to paint them as smugglers; and

(d) what are the goods involved and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Government of Bangladesh has proclaimed that it would be launching anti-smuggling operations against contraband goods from all countries held in shops and marketing centres from 17th December, 1991. There have also been demands in some quarters in Bangladesh to check smuggling activities in Indian textile products.

(c) According to information received, shop owners in Dhaka have decided to observe token strike and close shops daily for two hours from 10th December, 1991 against the anti-smuggling activities of that Government.

(d) It is always the policy of the Government to check smuggling of goods into or from India. Goods smuggled from India generally include cattle, sarees, cigarettes, sugar and motor parts.